

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
JEFFERSON CITY
January 26, 1999**

CASE NO: GO-99-155

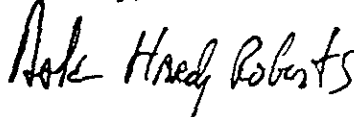
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Michael C. Pendergast
Laclede Gas Company
720 Olive Street, Room 1520
St. Louis, MO 63101

Enclosed find certified copy of ORDER in the above-numbered case(s).

Sincerely,



**Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge**

Uncertified Copy:

In the Matter of the Adequacy of Laclede Gas Company's Service Line Replacement Program and Leak Survey Procedures.) Case No. GO-99-155

On December 4, 1998, the Staff filed a Motion for Modification of Order Establishing Case. In this motion, the Staff requested the Commission clarify its order to reflect that this investigation is not a standard incident investigation and remove the investigation deadline, modify the method of reporting to the Commission, and change the reference to the "Energy Department" to reflect the current designation of "Gas Department." In support of this request, the motion indicates that the scope of this case is not determined by a single specific incident. Staff cannot yet specifically determine when its investigation will be completed because of the potentially broader scope of the investigation. However, Staff estimates that this docket

will require longer than the normal incident investigation and therefore requests that the requirement of 120 days for filing a report be removed. Staff states that the requested elimination of a firm due date will allow for a thorough investigation necessary to achieve the goal of this docket, which is to determine the adequacy of Laclede's existing copper service line replacement program and effectiveness of Laclede's investigation and leak survey procedures.

In addition, in lieu of the requirement for a report, Staff recommends that it be required to provide an update to the Commission no later than April 30, 1999, as to the progress of its investigation and recommend further actions and a schedule to resolve this docket. Staff notes that, unlike a standard gas incident investigation, in which a definable incident is the subject of the investigation and a report to the Commission is standard procedure, this investigation is not a standard incident investigation.

Staff further notes that the order refers to the "Energy Department" instead of using the correct designation of the "Gas Department."

The Commission has reviewed the Motion for Modification of Order Establishing Case, along with the rest of the case papers. The Commission finds that the requests of the Staff are reasonable and that the filing deadline of 120 days should be extended. The Commission will also grant the Staff's request to file an update in lieu of a report; the update should be provided no later than April 30, 1999, and should outline the progress of the Staff's investigation and recommend further actions and a schedule to resolve this docket. The

Commission will also change the reference to "Energy Department" to "Gas Department."

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED

1. That the reference to the "Energy Department" is corrected to refer to the "Gas Department."

2. That the Staff is ordered to file, no later than April 30, 1999, an update in lieu of an investigation report. The update should inform the Commission of the Staff's progress in its investigation and recommend further actions and a schedule to resolve this docket.

3. That this order shall become effective on February 5, 1999.

BY THE COMMISSION



Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Vicky Ruth, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant
to 4 CSR 240-2.120(1) (November 30,
1995) and Section 386.240, RSMo 1994.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 26th day of January, 1999.

AL/Sec'y: Ruth Pope

1-22 Date Circulated 1-27 Return by 3 p.m.

60-99-155
CASE NO.

JS
Lumpke, Chair

[Signature]
Crumpton, Commissioner

[Signature]
Murray, Commissioner

[Signature]
Schemenauer, Commissioner

[Signature]
Drainer, Vice-Chair

**STATE OF MISSOURI
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and

I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson
City,

Missouri, this 26TH day of JANUARY, 1999.



Dale Hardy Roberts

**Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge**